Disbursement of Kargil funds

1389. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) The total amount of funds collected till date, through various agencies, in and outside India, for the victims of Indo-Pak war at Kargil; and

(b) The names of beneficiaries and the amount disbursed among the victims?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) A sum of Rs. 446.24 crores has been collected in the National Defence Fund till 06-12-1999. A sum of Rs. 201 crores has been collected in the Army Central Welfare Fund. The Ministry of Defence have no information about the funds collected by other agencies.

(b) A sum of Rs. 46.25 crores has been released from National Defence Fund for 505 personnel killed and 60 personnel injured, towards ex-gratia for the disabled, acquisition of a dwelling unit, children education and dependant parent grant. A one-time grant of Rs. 30,000/-each has been given from the Army Central Welfare Fund to the families of the 800 soldiers killed and to 750 soldiers disabled during all operations including Kargil operation from 1st May, 1999.

Economic burden by sending IPKF in Sri Lanka

†1390. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country had suffer massive economic burden as the army was sent by India to Sri Lanka during their internal strife;

(b) if so, total amount spent on sending peace force to Sri Lanka; and

(c) the number of soldiers killed and wounded there, separately, alongwith the assistance provided to the families of the deceased soldiers?

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The total expenditure incurred on this account was of the order of Rs. 978 crores.

(c) 1165 personnel were killed and 3009 wounded in the operations in Sri Lanka. The families of the killed soldiers were given liberalised family pension and other pensionary benefits, as in the case of battle casualties, in accordance with the pensionary entitlements in force.

Compensation to porters killed during Kargil Conflict

1391. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the hired porters/volunteers to carry rations and ammunition for troops during the recent Kargil conflict were killed in the firing and thousands of porters have not been paid their wages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any compensation has been given to next of the kin of the porters/volunteers who lost their lives in the conflict; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the porters awaiting payment of their wages have been paid; if not, the steps teken by Government to clear their dues?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) during the Kargil confict, four porters were killed and two were injured as per the details given below :

(i) Shri Kamlesh Kumar S/o Banarsi Das of village Rehmbel, PO Garhi, Teh & Distt. Udhampur, J&K, was killed on 10th July 1999.

(ii) Shri Deler Singh S/o Shri Suram Singh of village Kolaha, Teh & Distt. Udhampur was killed on 1st August 1999.

(iii) Shri Paduman Singh S/o Shri Dantar Singh of village Kolaha, Teh & Distt. Udhampur was killed on 1st August 1999.

(iv) Shri Madan Singh S/o Shri Dhurub Singh of village Kolaha, Teh & Distt. Udhampur J&K was killed on 1st August 1999.

(v) Shri Krishan Lal S/o Shri Ganga Ram was injured.

(vi) Shri Ashwani Kumar S/o Shri Dass Ram was injured.